

MEIGS D. BENJAMIN & CO.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 50.]

FEBRUARY 29, 1840.

Mr. CURTIS, from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the petition of Meigs D. Benjamin & Co., of the city of New York, praying a remission of certain duties paid upon damaged goods imported from France, report as follows :*

That in January, 1839, the petitioners imported from France a large quantity of merchandise, and gave their bonds for the duties ; that, among the merchandise, were ten cases of leather gloves, which, on the 2d of February, 1839, were discovered to be damaged ; of which fact due proof was made to the collector of New York, by the petitioners, on the eleventh day after the landing of the goods, as to seven of the said cases of gloves, and on the thirteenth day after the landing thereof, as to the residue. In pursuance of an order of the collector, made on the 4th of February, 1839, the amount of damage to said ten cases of gloves was ascertained by the sworn appraisers of the United States, as appears by the testimony of one of them, and the amount of reduction of duties on account of the diminished value of the goods is ascertained to be two hundred dollars and forty-six cents. The petitioners have paid their bonds in full, and ask for a remission of this sum, which they have paid in the form of duties upon merchandise beyond its actual value. Had the proof of damage been made *one* day earlier as to seven of the cases of gloves, and *three* days earlier as to three of the cases, the collector would have had authority, by law, to make the allowance now claimed ; and as there appears to have been no intentional fraud or negligence on the part of the petitioners, but, on the contrary, that they made and completed their proofs as soon as it was in their power ; under the circumstances of the case, the committee are of opinion that the excess of duties ought to be refunded, and accordingly report a bill for that purpose.

Blair & Rives, printers.

WILLIAM D. BENJAMIN & CO

(The undersigned is a member of the New York State Bar)

FEBRUARY 20, 1871

Complaint from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT

The undersigned on Commerce, to inform as to the petition of the  
D. C. & Co. of the City of New York, praying a remission of  
duties on goods imported from France, report

That in January, 1869, the respondents imported from France a large  
quantity of merchandise, and gave their bonds for the duties; that among  
the merchandise were ten cases of leather gloves, which on the 24 of Feb-  
ruary, 1869, were discovered to be damaged; at which fact due proof was  
made to the collector of New York by the respondents on the eleventh day  
after the landing of the goods, as to seven of the said cases of gloves, and on  
the thirteenth day after the landing thereof, as to the residue. In pursuance  
of an order of the collector, made on the 11th of February, 1869, the amount  
of damage to said ten cases of gloves was ascertained by the sworn apprais-  
ers of the Customs, and appears by the testimony of one of them, and the  
amount of damage to be ten hundred dollars and fifty-six cents. The  
respondents paid the duties on the goods in full, and ask for a remission of this sum.  
The respondents claim that the goods were damaged by the collector's  
agents, and that the proof of damage been made one day earlier as to  
seven of the cases, and three days earlier as to three of the cases,  
and that they have had authority by law to make the allowance now  
asked for. The respondents say that they have been no intentional fraud or negli-  
gence on the part of the respondents, but on the contrary, that they made and  
renewed their bonds as soon as it was in their power; under the circum-  
stances of the case, the committee are of opinion that the duties on gloves  
ought to be remitted, and accordingly report a bill for that purpose.

WILLIAM D. BENJAMIN & CO